

# Exhibit A



**United States Department of State**  
*Bureau of Political-Military Affairs*  
*Directorate of Defense Trade Controls*  
Washington, D.C. 20522-0112

July 27, 2018

Mr. Cody R. Wilson, Defense Distributed, and Second Amendment Foundation, Inc.  
c/o Mr. Matthew A. Goldstein  
Snell & Wilmer  
One South Church Avenue  
Suite 1500  
Tucson, AZ 85701-1630

RE: Directorate of Defense Trade Controls Approval of Certain Files for Public Release

Dear Mr. Wilson, Defense Distributed, and Second Amendment Foundation, Inc.:

This letter is provided in accordance with section 1(c) of the Settlement Agreement in the matter of *Defense Distributed, et al., v. U.S. Department of State, et al.*, No. 15-cv-372-RP (W.D. Tx.) (hereinafter referred to as "*Defense Distributed*"). As used in this letter,

- The phrase "Published Files" means the files described in paragraph 25 of Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint in *Defense Distributed*.
- The phrase "Ghost Gunner Files" means the files described in paragraph 36 of Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint in *Defense Distributed*.
- The phrase "CAD Files" means the files described in paragraph 40 of Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint in *Defense Distributed*.

The Department understands that Defense Distributed submitted the Published Files, Ghost Gunner Files, and CAD Files to the Department of Defense's Defense Office of Prepublication and Security Review (DOPSR) in 2014 to request review for approval for public release pursuant to International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) § 125.4(b)(13). It is our further understanding that DOPSR did not make a determination on the eligibility of these files for release, but instead referred you to the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) regarding public release of these files.

I advise you that for the purposes of ITAR § 125.4(b)(13), the Department of State is a cognizant U.S. government department or agency, and DDTC has authority to issue the requisite approval for public release. To that end, I approve the Published Files, Ghost Gunner Files, and CAD Files for public release (i.e., unlimited distribution). As set forth in ITAR § 125.4(b)(13), technical data approved for public release by the cognizant U.S. government department or agency is not subject to the licensing requirements of the ITAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a horizontal line that curves upwards at the end.

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for the  
Directorate of Defense Trade Controls